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the United States have the right to intervene in frontier disputes of the American powers and to compel the disputants to arbitrate, altogether transcends in importance the question of the Guiana boundary. It is a formal recognition of the hegemony of the United States on the American continent, and gives the president the position in the New World which the mediæval popes and emperors tried vainly to claim in Europe. The question still remains as to who is to be the arbitrator. If it is the United States, the so-called settlement covers a surrender, for the United States has been a party to the dispute and is not qualified to be its judge.

MONTREAL (CANADA) GAZETTE.

Lord Salisbury's speech will be received with general satisfaction. While the Venezuela difficulty has ceased to be a subject of pressing anxiety, it is reassuring to know that the trouble is at an end. In itself, as Lord Salisbury hinted, the matter at issue is insignificant, and not worth while for two great powers to quarrel about. All that was needed was a solution which would enable both parties to emerge from the controversy with dignity unimpaired. Both Great Britain and the United States are of a mind to settle the matter amicably, a basis of agreement has been arrived at, and the details will be simply a matter of negotiation. This is a result which will be heartily welcomed by the English-speaking peoples on both sides of the Atlantic.

NEW BOOKS.

THE WAMPUM BELT; a Tale of William Penn's Treaty with the Indians. By Hezekiah Butterworth. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Handsomely illustrated. 12mo, cloth, \$1.50.

This book is the sixth volume of Mr. Butterworth's stories of the creators of American liberty, and in our judgment decidedly the best of them all. In writing this story of the "Great Treaty" the author's deeply humane and pacific spirit has had a fitting subject on which to express itself in the largest and freest way. He has succeeded in giving us a vivid picture of Indian character in the early days of Pennsylvania, and of the powerful and lasting impression made by Penn's love and faithfulness upon the minds and hearts of the simple children of the forest. The book is a combination of fiction and history, the story frequently stopping in order that the author may unfold some historic fact which he did not find it possible to weave into the tale. From the artistic point of view one might find something to criticise in this combination, and the way in which it is worked out, but the didactic value of the book seems not lessened but rather increased thereby. The character of Faithful Heart, the chief character of the story, is nobly conceived and beautifully drawn. Everybody who is interested in the study of the noble Christian character of William Penn and of his "holy experiment" with a government founded and conducted strictly on Christian principles as taught in the Sermon on the Mount will find "The Wampum Belt" a very instructive and entertaining book. No fresher, sweeter book for young people has appeared in a long time, and we should be glad to know that it had been read by every boy and girl of fifteen years in the land. It is an admirable Christmas book.

IAN MACLAREN AS A MESSENGER OF PEACE
AND GOOD WILL.

The steadily increasing predominance of English-speaking people in the world is one of the most significant facts of contemporaneous history. In spite of serious imperfections, they, as a rule, stand for enlightenment and Christian principles. Therefore, whatever has a tendency to bring them into closer and more sympathetic relations with one another, is not only a blessing to them as a people, but is also an aid to the progress of Christian civilization.

In the ordering of Divine Providence a man has been raised up who affords a striking illustration of the truth that, "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin." The writings of Ian Maclaren (Dr. John Watson) move those deep springs of the heart which belong to our common humanity, and hence, they directly promote a spirit of universal brotherhood. In addition to this service to mankind, he has presented a formula, which, in a few brief sentences, expresses the very spirit, and essence of Christianity. It is called a "Life Creed," but in a strict sense, it is not a creed—a substitute for the historic creeds. It is an interpretation of them. It changes the emphasis from dogma to life, from Christian doctrine to Christian character. It reads as follows:

I believe in the Fatherhood of God. I believe in the words of Jesus. I believe in the clean heart. I believe in the service of love. I believe in the unworldly life. I believe in the Beatitudes. I promise to trust God and follow Christ, to forgive my enemies, and to seek after the righteousness of God.

Dr. Watson is now in America, and expects to return to England in a few weeks. It is proposed to utilize the opportunity by sending, through him, an address to the English-speaking people of the world, suggesting a general acceptance of the Life Creed as a symbol of universal Christian fellowship, for the promotion of "peace on earth and good will among men."

All who are in sympathy with this plan are invited to send in their names, which will be copied on a general list and presented to Dr. Watson with an appropriate address, just before he leaves for England. If we have been touched and uplifted by his writings, let us take this opportunity to express our gratitude, which will also help to extend his influence. Better still, do not be satisfied with merely sending your own name. Get as many names as you can to send with yours. Presidents of colleges and universities, and of Young Men's and Young Women's Associations or any other institutions, are asked to aid the movement. A sheet of paper has been prepared with a suitable heading for this purpose, which will be mailed to any one desiring it if a two-cent stamp is enclosed with the order. *All names and lists that come after Dr. Watson leaves the country will be forwarded to him in England.*

It is the wish of the Brotherhood of Christian Unity to bring the Life Creed to the attention of all the sixty-five millions of the American people. For this purpose it is printed in four different forms, as follows:

1. On large wall-cards for the library or bedroom, size 11 x 13 inches, in illuminated text, with calendars for 1897. A beautiful Christmas present. Price 15 cents each, 2 for 25 cents, 10 for \$1.00, \$8.00 per hundred.
2. On larger wall-cards with large, plain type, for